

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 4**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Miller**

February 3, 2011

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 4—Relative to the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 4, as introduced, Miller. Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act.

This measure would memorialize the President of the United States and the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation to award a federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act loan guarantee to enable the timely construction of the State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project in the interest of economic competitiveness of California and the United States.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Transportation Infrastructure Finance and
- 2 Innovation Act (TIFIA) program was created by the United States
- 3 Congress to provide credit assistance to nationally or regionally
- 4 significant surface transportation projects; and
- 5 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project
- 6 requires a federal loan guarantee from the TIFIA program to enable
- 7 construction of the \$1.3 billion infrastructure project; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project
- 9 will be built entirely without state or federal funding, relying solely
- 10 on local revenues; and

1 WHEREAS, The voters of Riverside County, California have  
2 twice approved a one-half cent “self-help” sales tax for  
3 transportation that includes improvements to State Highway Route  
4 91; and

5 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project  
6 will be among the largest highway construction projects to  
7 commence in the State of California in nearly a decade; and

8 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project  
9 is anticipated to provide significant economic benefits to the State  
10 of California, including, but not limited to, \$2 billion in economic  
11 output throughout the state, labor income totaling over \$778  
12 million, \$85 million in increased state and local tax revenues, a  
13 permanent increase of 830 jobs per year after construction, and  
14 time saved by commuters with a net present value of \$1.5 billion  
15 to the California economy; and

16 WHEREAS, Unemployment in areas of California served by  
17 State Highway Route 91 has exceeded 15 percent and remains  
18 above 14 percent; and

19 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project  
20 can begin construction in early 2012 if federal TIFIA financing is  
21 received; and

22 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project  
23 employs congestion pricing as an innovative tool to manage severe  
24 congestion and enable the growth of public transit by bus, rail, and  
25 bicycle in a highly constrained, narrow canyon that is the primary  
26 route between the inland and coastal regions of southern California,  
27 which are inextricably connected to the economic well-being of  
28 California; and

29 WHEREAS, The State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project  
30 is a product of regional planning and environmental stewardship,  
31 including the largest multispecies habitat conservation plan in the  
32 United States, comprehensive integrated planning by the County  
33 of Riverside in response to rapid urbanization, and a decade of  
34 cooperation between Riverside and Orange Counties in regional  
35 transportation management and planning; and

36 WHEREAS, It is in the economic interest of the State of  
37 California and the United States to encourage local investment in  
38 nationally and regionally significant infrastructure, create jobs in  
39 near and long term, and improve the quality of life for  
40 hard-working families and businesses who rely on major highways

1 such as State Highway Route 91 to access employment, customers,  
2 and their families; and

3 WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of California has, on  
4 two separate occasions, approved legislation on a bipartisan basis  
5 to authorize and accelerate the construction of the State Route 91  
6 Corridor Improvement Project; now, therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
8 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature of the State of California  
9 memorializes the President of the United States and the Secretary  
10 of the United States Department of Transportation to award a  
11 federal TIFIA loan guarantee to enable the timely construction of  
12 the State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project in the interest  
13 of economic competitiveness of California and the United States;  
14 and be it further

15 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
16 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
17 States, to the Speaker of the United States House of  
18 Representatives, to the Majority Leader in the Senate, to each  
19 Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the  
20 United States, to the Secretary of United States Department of  
21 Transportation, and to the author for appropriate distribution.